

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Patent Application of |) | |
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| Stephen L. BENNETT et al. |) | Group Art Unit: Unassigned |
| |) | |
| Application No.: Unassigned |) | Examiner: Unassigned |
| |) | |
| Filed: September 22, 2003 |) | Confirmation No.: Unassigned |
| |) | |
| For: CEMENTED CARBIDE ARTICLE |) | |
| HAVING BINDER GRADIENT AND |) | |
| PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE |) | |
| SAME |) | |

**FIRST
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed. However, copies of the listed U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are not enclosed since it is no longer required according to the July 11, 2003 waiver of the requirement for copies of cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications in national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and international applications entering the national stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 after June 30, 2003.

The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later. Since documents are being filed within the time period set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) no fee or statement is required.

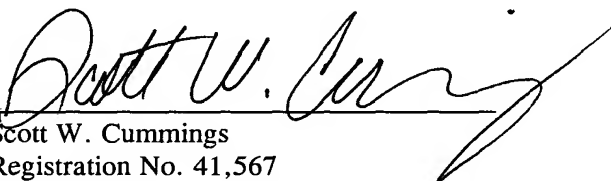
To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: September 22, 2003

By:



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| Substitute for forms 1449A/PTO & 1449B/PTO | ATTORNEY'S DKT No. | APPLICATION No. |
| | 033679-047 | New U.S. Patent Appln. |
| | APPLICANT | |
| | Stephen L. BENNETT et al. | |
| FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | FILING DATE | GROUP |
| | September 22, 2003 | Unassigned |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | |
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| Examiner Initials | Document Number | Kind Code (if known) | Country | Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY) | Translation Yes No |
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| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Examiner Initials | Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. **SEND TO:** Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.